Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

Castro Discusses Center's Inflated Payroll

FL212011 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1353 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Text] During the PCC assessment meeting held recently in Playa, our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro talked about the National Scientific Research Center's, CENIC, payroll being reduced by almost 50 percent. The research center is located in the municipality of Playa.

[Begin Castro recording] You have talked about considerable reductions taking place, and you have spoken clearly about the masses being used by the method.That is important, because you say it does not create political problems. Political problems are created when someone from the top speaks into a cassette [preceding word in English] and says: Do this, do that, and that is final. But when workers themselves are the ones who analyze the problem and make suggestions, well, that is really the right political method to be used, the revolutionary method of seeking solutions at the same time people are placed and replaced, etc.

When we opened the new scientific research center,one of the things that concerned me the most was that workers should be able to live as close as possible to the center. Anyone understands that it is impossible to solve the housing problem of 1,400 people when actually only about 500 are needed there, almost a third of the payroll. He himself explained here how many truly bureaucratic jobs and positions existed. These were children of fantasy not children of need. All those hierarchies,payrolls, millions of people in offices are children of fantasy resulting from a marriage between irresponsibility and the spirit of waste, of thoughtlessness, of undervaluing human resources. People should be trained and sent where they are truly needed.

I always cite this example. We are going to have 40,000 doctors and nurses in the family doctor program. Well, it is much better to have 40,000 doctors scattered from the mountains of Maisi to Cabo San Antonio, everywhere and in every neighborhood, than to have 40,000 working in offices. Anyone understands this. See what he says. Look there are 794 people left on a payroll that numbereJ 1,400,and that original number was nver fully reached. A specialist would need to diagnose the situation and figure out what we could call the etiology of that payroll of 1,400. Yes, that would be needed. We need to find out who invented it, how he invented it, when he invented it, and why he invented it, and confront him with the facts. We can tell him, look, they are producing in a more scientific way. Some 790 are left and we have a surplus of 166. This is so you can see and have an idea of the magnitude of the mistake all these inflated payrolls have been. [end recording]

We interviewed Comrade Julian Rodriguez, CENIC deputy general director, so he could explain the work performed at the research center.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] In December of 1984, when the work objectives for the next 5-year period were analyzed, the CENIC payroll had 1,416 positions; 1,084 of them were filled. When we compared the objectives and the number of people needed to conduct the extra research tasks we had been assigned, we saw that the payroll was inflated. The CENIC was no exception to the inflated payroll phenomenon which took place in the country.

From that time on, intense work was carried out with the participation of all mass organizations, the PCC, the labor union, the Union of Young Communists, and the institution, to make the payroll adequate to the work objectives, the needs we had to fulfill our work objectives.

One of the first measures implemented during this stage was to make an analysis of each one of our leaders. We analyzed the payroll of the cadres. We have to take into account that in December of 1984 we had a payroll of 156 managers. Currently, we only have 47 comrades among our management personnel. Later, the payroll was reduced because of adjustments made to the work plan.

The participation of the masses has had a significant role in the center. The workers themselves have been determining how many workers, researchers, technicians, clerical, and research support personnel should work in each area, according to the tasks we should carry out. This process has been carried out in every area. The participation of all workers has been very political. This has enabled us to reduce our payroll to 790 workers. It has been suggested in the last few meetings that our center can work and fulfill the objectives the country has assigned us with 166 less workers.

I believe that in addition to reducing the payroll in our center, saving resources, and salaries—since many times when the payroll is inflated resources and research related matters that do not have practical purposes have to be sought—trained personnel can be useful elsewhere.

Our experience in the last 2 years has indicated that we have saved material resources and salaries. However,the most significant thing is that all plans have been fulfilled and, in addition, production from the scientific standpoint has increased. [end recording]

Raul Castro Attends Defense Day Activities

FL262206 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Report by Nelson Pardino; passages in quotation marks recorded]

[Text] FAR Minister Army General Raul Castro yesterday toured several Regla municipality areas where training exercises were being held on the occasion of Defense

Day. The second secretary of the PCC Central Committee was accompanied by Army General Humberto Ortega, Nicaraguan defense minister, who is on a working visit in our country; Vilma Espin, member of the PCC Poliburo and president of the Cuban Women's Federation; and a high-ranking Soviet delegation formed by officers who have collaborated in the various areas in Cuba. Also present were Jorge Lezcano Perez, first PCC secretary in Havana City Province; Pedro Chavez, president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government, both members of the PCC Central Committee; and other high-ranking FAR general staff officers.

Following his tour of the municipality, which included visits to areas of cultural and historical interest, Gen Castro attended the main event during which Havana City was declared ready for defense, in the first phase. The 70th anniversay of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the upcoming provincial assembly of the party were also greeted during this event.

After placing a wreath before the monument built to honor the memory of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, founder of the world's first peasant and workers state, Raul Castro said:

"Today, as part of the country's defense training activities, we have joined the hundreds of officers, subofficers, sergeants, soldiers, and civilian workers of the FAR, DAAFAR [Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force], and the Cuban Revolutionary Navy, and have participated in this fruitful morning by visiting several training areas. We are concluding today's activities with this event held here at this already historic—since the early days of the October revolution—historic and combatant Lenin Hill.

"According to today's program I am not scheduled to give the closing remarks of this important and touching activity. But, with your permission, I shall play the role of master of ceremonies [applause] and then introduce Comrade Pedro Chavez, president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government. [applause]

"I was not able to resist the temptation to visit this historic place, nor was I able to keep myself from coming here and briefly conveying my greetings to the fighting people of Regla [applause] who, as we all know, on 3 March celebrated their 300 years of existence, and expressing our appreciation for all that they taught us this morning. [applause] We have once again learned a lesson from our heroic, peaceful, and hardworking people. [applause]"

Later, Gen Castro stressed:

"The gigantic efforts put forth by our people for the past 7 years under the leadership of all our party organizations—all our nationwide efforts for defense, all those tons of drops of sweat that we have shed one Sunday each month, without counting other training activities carried out by the MTT [Territorial Troops Militia] and other fighting forces—were not put forth because we love war. Quite the contrary. War is foreign to our social and socialist regime. We have invested many material resources and human efforts to strengthen our defense precisely because we want to avoid war, to be strong and avoid war. This is why we repeat again and again all around the country that, for us, avoiding war means the same as winning the war.

"This is why the slogan first heard during the second congress of the party, and which was repeated during the third congress, calling for production and defense, continues to be, and will continue to be the slogan for the fourth congress—production to guarantee the subsequent development of our country and ensure a peaceful and happy future for our descendants, for our future generations for whom today we make sacrifices—we make these sacrifices with honor, with the same honor of our ancestors who sacrificed for us—production to guarantee their future and a solid defense to guarantee that the future will be one of peace. This is why all we do—and do not forget these simple words—is to prevent war. I repeat, for us, avoiding a war is the same as winning the war."

Pedro Chavez, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government, gave the closing remarks during the event marking the end of the Defense Day activities held on the historic hill in Regla municipality. Chavez spoke of the importance of the day's activities in which more than 210,000 men and women participated in 800 training exercises of the MTT and production and defense brigades throughout the capital city. Target practice and improving the economic plans during the time of war were two of the many important exercises practiced throughout the day.

Machado Attends PCC Municipal Meeting

FL241639 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1611 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] The developments of the main economic indicators and activities related to education, health, and mini brigades will be discussed at the PCC municipal meeting in Habana Vieja. The meeting began at the Lazaro Pena Theater with Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the PCC Politburo, in attendance.

An extensive movement of the masses was carried out in the area. They contributed over 900,000 hours of volunteer work for the completion or initiation of a group of projects, the construction of a workshop for the handicapped among them. This effort is continuing with the construction of five child care centers—which should be completed this year—a shelter for families with housing problems, and 26 other buildings.

IAEA Director General Meets With Malmierca

FL270243 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Text] Dr Hans Blix, director general of the IAEA, began his activities today in Havana. He was received late this afternoon by our foreign minister, Isidoro Malmierca. The foreign minister and Dr Blix talked about the importance of the peaceful use of nuclear energy and the perspectives of the international organization on nuclear energy. Another subject discussed was the IAEA activities in providing cooperation and technical assistance to developing countries.

Dr Hans Blix this afternoon also visited Havana's Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Center. Mr Blix was accompanied by Dr Manuel Limonta Vidal, the center's director, during his tour through the facility. They visited the laboratories of the analytic unit which provides services in the study of molecules and amino acids, among other matters. Blix was briefed on the main lines of research in which 125 Cubans participate. He was pleased with the center's work.

USSR Minister Busygin Arrives in Havana

FL262238 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Mikhail Ivanovich Busygin, USSR minister of the timber, pulp and paper, and wood processing industry, has arrived in Cuba to meet with Cuban officials and discuss aspects regarding Soviet cooperation in the plan to improve our paper factories. Busygin was greeted at the Jose Marti International Airport by Marcos Portal, Cuban minister of basic industry and member of the PCC Central Committee, and Adolfo Diaz, minister of agriculture and alternate member of the PCC Central Committee. During his stay in Cuba, Busygin will visit several paper industry installations and forest areas in Pinar del Rio.

President of Ecuadoran Congress Arrives

FL240320 Havana Television Cubana Network in Spanish 0257 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Dr Jorge Zabala Baquerizo, president of the national Ecuadoran congress, arrived in our country a few hours ago. He was met at the Jose Marti airport by Flavio Bravo Pardo, member of the Council of State and president of the National Assembly of the Peoples Government, and Mr Manuel Araujo Hidalgo, Ecuadoran ambassador to Cuba.

Zabala Baquerizo will be in our country until 30 October and will visit areas of economic and social interest in Havana and Cienfuegos Provinces and the special municipality, the Isle of Youth.

Meets With Flavio Bravo

FL261848 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Report by Gisela Bel Heredia]

[Text] Jorge Zabala Baquerizo, president of the Ecuadoran national congress, and Flavio Bravo Pardo, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, held official talks this morning in Havana. Zabala Baquerizo told Bravo Pardo that the main reason for his visit to this country is to invite Cuba to attend the meeting of presidents of the continent's parliaments to be held in Quito in November. The presidents of the various parliaments will meet to discuss the foreign debt issue. Zabala Baquerizo said that this is a very important issue and he feels that this important issue should be supported by a country that has always expressed a very firm stance in the face of this problem. Therefore, he said, we feel it is important that Cuba attend this meeting.

In response to Zabala Baquerizo's words, Flavio Bravo thanked him for the invitation and stressed the two countries similar views regarding the immoral, unpayable, and criminal nature of the foreign debt and the need to confront a problem that is strongly affecting our peoples.

The president of the Ecuadoran national congress arrived in Cuba on Friday and has already visited Cienfuegos Province. He will also visit sites of historic and socioeconomic interest in Havana, the Isle of Youth, and Havana Province.

U.S. Government Blamed for UNESCO's Problems

FL231519 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Cuba has denounced in Paris the negative effects the continuous U.S. Government anti-UN actions have had in UNESCO. Rosa Elena Simeon, president of the Academy of Sciences, spoke on behalf of Cuba at UNESCO's plenary meeting. She expressed concern over the organization's current situation because of the withdrawal of some of its members. She also rejected all attempts made by UNESCO founders to violate established norms or grant a group of countries the right to dictate the future work of international organizations and who should direct them.

OTHER COUNTRIES

Montserrat's Osborne Chairs Caricom Meeting

FL210013 Bridgetown CANA in English 2215 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 20, CANA—Montserrat's Chief Minister John Osborne called on Tuesday for compromise and a greater demonstration of commitment to the liberalisation of trade within the Caribbean Community (Caricom).

Osborne is chairing the two-day special meeting of the Common Market Council of Ministers to discuss trading difficulties in the 12-member grouping.

He said industrial development and trade posed numerous challenges for decision-making at both national and regional levels but the greatest of these challenges must be to utilise to the maximum advantage, the region's resources in a concerted effort to break the pattern of dependency that has influenced our trading relations and consumption habits.

He said the last council meeting broke some new ground when members took a bold step and announced their intention to liberalise trade in the Caribbean community and to move briskly to facilitate the abandonment of protectionist policies and those covert and overt measures which tend to impede trade amongst member dates.

But noting that the current meeting has been convened to work out the first phase of that trade liberalisation exercise, he said while the meeting represented members' determination to move from rhetoric to action, he nevertheless wished to sound a note of caution for the results of a similar attempt at Nassau, the Bahamas, a few years ago had been somewhat disappointing.

Our objectives here are identical even though we are using a different route and members need to be reminded that success on this occasion will require compromise and a greater demonstration of commitment, the recently re-elected Montserrat chief minister told the opening session of the meeting being held on the conference room of the Caricom secretariat.

Osborne said that in the whole exercise, the private sector has a crucial role to play particularly in the area of product improvement, promotion, and shipping and they need to be conscious that efficiency and price competitiveness will be crucial elements in a regional economy characterised by free trade. He emphasised the need to reduce wasteful duplication within the community and stressed that the relatively small size of the Caricom market and the region's limited resources dictate that there should be cooperation amongst industrialists, trade, and government officials.

At this stage of our development, it will be difficult to tell medium-size firms to introduce some of the technological innovations available and reap economics of scale without assuring them of some significant portion of the regional market, Chief Minister Osborne stressed. This points to the need for carefully devised schemes and effective information systems, he added.

Oils, Fats Agreements Progress

FL261656 Bridgetown CANA in English 1430 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 26, CANA - Caribbean Community (Caricom) Secretary General Roderick Rainford, has reported progress towards establishing new arrangements for the marketing of oils and fats within the community.

He told reporters significant progress was made during the just-concluded special meeting of the Common Market Council chaired by Montserrat's Chief Minister John Osborne.

The meeting here was attended by all 12 member states, nine of which were represented at the ministerial level.

Rainford said he hoped that the new arrangements would be finalised by February next year.

Arrangements for the marketing of oils and fats within Caricom have been a prominent issue in Caricom talks for several years, with one of the central matters under discussions being the question of drafting a new schedule nine to the annexe to the Treaty of Chaguaramas establishing Caricom.

The old schedule nine, the secretary-general explained, is, in essence, an inter-governmental agreement among Caricom states setting out a regime for the production and marketing of oils and fats in the region and a principal feature involved the periodic declaration of surpluses and deficits by the trading companies.

What is being done at present, he explained further, was a review of schedule nine, having regard to changed circumstances in the oils and fats industry—in particular the coconut oil industry—which is of special importance to the less developed countries of Caricom.

Rainford said the new circumstances called for a revamping of the old regime and the preparation of a new schedule has been under discussion and negotiation for sometime now.

The latest position was reported to the council at its two day meeting last Tuesday and Wednesday and the discussions have now reached a stage where the process has been significantly advanced towards finalisation of the new schedule nine, Rainford told newsmen.

He added: What emerged from the ministers discussions is that we expect that by the end of the year and, certainly, by the next regular meeting of the council during the first week of February next year, it will be possible to finalise the new schedule nine so that it can come into effect.

Free Trade List Agreement

FL261746 Bridgetown CANA in English 1801 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 25, CANA - The Caribbean Common Market Council has agreed on a consolidated list of products which have been accorded free and unrestricted trade within the 12-member common market, the Caribbean Community (Caricom) Secretary General Roderick Rainford announced.

The items including processed foods, garments, chemicals and footwear.

The list, which was approved Wednesday during a special two-day meeting the council held at the Georgetown-based secretariat, took effect Thursday, Rainford told a press conference Friday.

The items on that list are items which, whenever they appear in the trade of any member state with another member state should be traded without any restrictions, he said.

He said the secretariat is now actively at work refining the list which involves a range of important product categories including primary agricultural products, processed foods, some items of garments and textiles, various chemical products, footwear products and some assembly-type products.

The meeting was attended by all 12 members of the common market, nine of them at the ministerial level.

According to the seretary general, they also agreed that for certain identified items on the list there would be a temporary suspension of the request for unrestricted free trade in respect of certain countries.

It was agreed, however, that the countries granted this temporary suspension, whenever importing one of the specified items, would give first priority to Caricom sources of supply.

Some items on the list for which there is agreement for temporary suspension apply to the members of Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) as a group while others apply to specific countries within the OECS and not to the OECS as a whole.

One or two items apply to Barbados and to Belize, Rainford admitted.

But he added: When you look at the list as a whole, the overwhelming majority of the items will not be affected by those exceptions.

The special council meeting chaired by Montserrat's Chief Minister John Osborne was mandated by the heads of government meeting in St Lucia in July to follow up on agreements reached to work toward the complete removal of all barriers and all measures restricting intra-regional trade in Caricom by the end of the third quarter of 1988.

It was also the understanding of the St Lucia meeting that in the interim— in the period leading up to October 1988—a range of products in respect of which the trading partners in the common market could undertake to engage in unrestricted trade should be drawn up.

Since the July meetings of the council and of the heads of government, member countries were required to submit separate lists of products they wished to be accorded free and unrestricted trade so as to facilitate the drawing up of a single consolidated list.

These national lists were to be prepared after consultations between the private and public sectors and 11 of the 12 members complied, with Grenada opting not to submit a list because the items it wished to have included had already been covered in lists submitted by other countries.

Rainford said that the secretariat will be depending on member states which encounter barriers to free trade in any of the items on the list to inform it.

There will be continuous monitoring, he reported.

Rainford said the question of compliance with the rules of origin is another important issue of concern within the community and was a subject of in-depth discussions at the just concluded council meeting—Caricom's highest decision making forum between meetings of the heads of government.

He noted that already enshrined in the annex to the Treaty of Chagaramus establishing Caricom is a system and procedure for resolving disputes that might arise between two trading partners on the question of compliance on the origin rules.

But he added: Our experience is that system has not often been invoked and there is a feeling within the common market that the system is perhaps too complex and perhaps too unwieldly and time-consuming.

He said that in this regard the council agreed to review the existing system with a view to seeing where necessary improvements can be introduced. It also agreed that in the process of reviewing the existing system, there will be consultation with the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC) the regional private [word indistinct].

He stressed, however, that pivotal to the smooth and effective functioning of the system is the need for integrity—and a great deal of trust.

Grenada

Radix Accuses Government of Rights Violation

FL241313 Bridgetown CANA in English 1008 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Oct 21, CANA—Leader of the opposition Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM), Kendrick Radix, has accused the government of violating the human rights of Einstein Louison, a member of the party's executive.

Einstein is being discriminated against purely on the grounds of politcs and his membership of the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement because more than two years have passed since his passport has been taken away, Radix told a news conference.

On May 21, 1985, Louison, who was chief of staff of the disbanded People's Revolutionary Army (PRA), had his passport confiscated as he was about to leave for East Germany.

Radix, a lawyer, had challenged the government's action in a constitutional motion, but this was thrown out by the court.

The court accepted the opinion of the police that they had reason to believe Louison's trip to East Germany was connected with activities which would threaten the security of the state.

Radix said he wished to appeal against that decision but in spite of repeated requests, he was unable to get the necessary documents from the high court.

Up to now, more than two years later, we have not been able to get a written judgement in order to file an appeal. That is how far democracy has gone. That is the vulgarisation of democracy, he said.

Haiti

CEP Member Discusses Election Security

FL270020 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil in Creole 1200 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Excerpts] This weekend we met with Philippe Jules, a member of the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP]. He talked to us about how things were coming along, how the CEP was planning for the elections to unfold, and how the CEP was at the service of the Haitian people so the elections could go off well in Haiti. Our reporter Eddy Louis Jacques met with members of the CEP for a long interview to find out how things are coming along—voter registration, the business of security, and how things are coming along in general.

Saturday afternoon, in the time slot for "Tribune Populaire," at 1530 hours, you heard that interview, which was mainly between Eddy and Philippe Jules. [passage omitted] For those thinking they can cause disorder, there are articles in the electoral law sanctioning them; there are courts to judge them; and there are police forces, whose duty it is to collaborate—because this falls within the framework of their duty. Let's listen.

[Begin Jules recording] [Passage omitted] Under its mandate it is the duty of the Interior Ministry to provide the required security. And I do not think the ministry will fail to do its duty, despite the fact that the CEP wrote a letter to the Interior Ministry and got a negative response. The ministry said it did not want to meddle in the elections and, therefore, it would not provide the security we were asking for. That is what gave us problems. The ministry was watching what it did, but we also think that in order for elections to be held there must be security.

However, we think, judging by the decisions that have been made recently... [changes thought] they held a seminar on the electoral law, on the Constitution, and on the business of security for the elections. I think what needs to be done can be done. Let's believe it will be done.

If a particular group in the Armed Forces is given specific orders to carry out... [changes thought] Crooked things always take place at the lower levels because proper, straight orders are never given at the top. After 7 February 1986—or before 7 February 1986—you used to hear everyone talking about the Leopards. Whenever anything bad happened, everyone used to say it was the Leopards. Have you heard anything more about the Leopards? That means that the Leopards have become a civilized corps. It is no longer the corps of demons that used to devour people under Duvalier.

Just take a careful look. Do you still hear the people bad-mouthing the Leopards? No, because for a while now the Leopards haven't done anything bad in the streets of Port-au-Prince. People are still saying, however: It's the guys in olive green. Of course we wouldn't like them to give us the guys in olive green to provide security during elections because they have a bad reputation. But if they give us simple corps—people who are not repressive, who don't kill—as some of them do—we think that if they give them instructions in keeping with the seminar, the people will be able to trust them—if the servicemen providing security are calm people. [passage omitted]

And this is rather important. If they were to give us a special corps, a special police corps, to provide security during elections, the people could already begin to identify them and, as soon as the population knew that it would be that corps providing security for the elections, I think things would be done in fraternity—despite several recent somber occurrences. But I think the people would accept having level-headed people provide security during the elections—precisely in order to prevent thugs from perturbing voter registration. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Episcopal Conference Statement on Elections

FL201422 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil in Creole 1100 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Excerpts] The Episcopal Conference of Haiti [CEH] has issued a third message in connection with the general elections to be held in November. [passage omitted]

Declaration by the CEH, 16 October 1987:

On 7 February 1986, the Haitian people believed they had turned a page in the history of Haiti. Today, they are very disappointed to realize that they are beginning to relive the worst days of the former government. The murder of Yves Volel, former Army officer, lawyer, and presidential candidate, is an example that shows clearly that the same vile actions and methods formerly used against the Haitian people are continuing. The Haitian people do not want anything to do with those ways and methods anymore.

This crime, committed right in front of the general headquarters of the police, which exists to protect the lives and property of all, is simply shocking. We ask that the people who committed this crime be sought and punished in conformity with the law. Life is sacred. It is a gift from God. It should be respected. No one has a right to take another's life or to dispose of it as he sees fit. As the Second Vatican Council said: Anything that is against life, anything that can make a person's life lose its value, anything that wounds human dignity, is very bad. Such things bring even greater dishonor on the perpetrators than on the victims. They constitute an insult to that which created heaven and earth.

The Haitian people are expecting a big change in Haiti. The kind of change they are expecting will occur if elections are held freely and democratically, without preference being shown for anyone at all.

The National Government Council solemnly swore—before Haiti and all other, foreign, countries—to help Haiti take the path of democracy. It also swore it would ensure that conditions permitting honest elections in Haiti existed. What do we see today? They scorn the people's demands, people they know to have committed crimes are not brought to trial, there is no security for people's lives or property, people are arrested without warrants, and so forth. All these vile actions have given rise to fear in Haiti that has sown confusion in the population's minds. That is why it is doubting and wondering how the government really feels about elections.

Many people who were bigshots under the former government are now back on the scene as candidates in the forthcoming elections. Doesn't this mean that they are determined to retake power? To continue the old system of government, despite the fact that the Haitian people declared that the system was finished—over and done with—by stating clearly, on 7 February, that they wanted a change? Didn't they show they meant what they said by ratifying the Constitution on 29 March 1987? Does the government realize that the people's mentality has changed? Does it realize that in 1987 it can no longer get away with what what was done—with what it could get away with—in 1957?

The Haitian people, who are going to exercise their right to vote, want to exercise that right freely. If there is cheating in the coming elections the people will not fail to to show their opposition. If the Haitian people are disappointed by fraudulent elections it will not lead to brother killing brother in a civil war because the Haitian people do not possess weapons; but those who do have weapons might murder those who are unarmed.

We wholeheartedly ask the government to respect the Haitian people's will—that is, to stay within the role it is called upon to play in the history of this nation. That role is to help the country make the transition from a repressive dictatorship to a democracy in which the population is respected.

Upon seeing all the suffering of those who have nothing, the suffering of the unemployed, the abject poverty in the cities, and the living conditions of the peasant masses, for which no services whatsoever are provided, the people in power should be better able to understand their responsibilities. They should commit themselves to never doing anything that might appear to link them to the former regime's, the former government's, system.

You candidates awaiting elections would like to serve the country, as president, deputy, senator, municipal magistrate, or rural section official. We know you have a conscience. We assume you love this country. Therefore, we ask you: Please, don't waste your energy seeking wealth, honors, and the trappings of power. No! Wholeheartedly seek, instead, the good of the nation and of the Haitian people.

It would be a great injustice to the Haitian masses if you used your authority only to further your own personal interests—the interests of your families, your friends, or members of your party or group.

There is something else: There are far too many presidential candidates. It would be good for you to get together among yourselves and reach an agreement to bring several parties under a single banner. There would thus be fewer candidates and the voters could more easily make a choice. The votes would not be divided among so many people that no one has a chance to win.

Haitian people, the future of Haiti is in your hands. You want to build a country and a democratic society—one in which the masses matter? Well, then say no to all forms of dictatorship, regardless of where this dictatorship comes from. You want to build a new Haiti? Then say no to everything that could cause us to regress and return to the former system of government. You want to build a community, a society, in which each respects the other—a society based on truth, justice; a society that exudes love; a society that progresses within true freedom? Well, then, my friends, do not let yourselves be bought with money, do not let yourselves be pushed into using violence and into hating, for hatred and violence are destructive forces.

In the change that everyone desires for Haiti, one of the greatest weapons that you have is your vote. You must know how to use that vote because that vote constitutes your rights. But you must also realize that it is your civic duty not to waste that vote.

The Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] is an institution created by the Constitution itself to organize elections and to supervise the electoral process. This is a big responsibility on the shoulders of the members of the CEP. That is why we must try to understand them and why we must support them. That is also why we are asking you to give the CEP all the help it needs, so that the course of elections can unfold properly. You must not refuse to do what they ask of you, when they ask you to form a chain of solidarity to keep watch, day and night, over all the CEP offices nationwide. No one must be negligent about his participation. Everyone must participate in these elections. Everyone who is of voting age, everyone to whom the Constitution gives the right to vote, must go vote.

We ardently wish to see blood cease to flow in Haiti. Let's lay aside all hatred, all malice, all ambition, all envy, all lies. It is time, my friends, for unity, togetherness, and progress to reign throughout Haiti.

Today, upon recalling the day Pope John Paul II was chosen shepherd of the entire church, we are pleased to remind you of the letter he addressed to the Haitian church a few months ago: I hope you will not lose your courage at present. Understand that the pope is with you, accompanying you through all your difficulties and all your problems as authorities of the church, and sharing all your hopes. Understand that the pope is bonded to you, and, through you, he wishes to become one, through prayer, with the Haitian people, who are such a good people.

He is asking God to enlighten each Haitian. He is asking for God to strengthen his will so that he will really seek whatever can best further the country's progress.

We join the pope. We declare that we make that prayer to the Virgin Mary, she whom the Haitians so like to call the mother of perpetual assistance.

This declaration was issued by the CEH on 16 October 1987. The document is signed by the following bishops: Mgsr Francois Gayot, bishop of Cap Haitien, president of the CEH; Mgsr Leonard Petion Laroches, bishop of Hinche, vice president of the CEH; Mgsr Joseph Lafontant, auxiliary bishop of Port-au-Prince, secretary general of the CEH; Mgsr Francois Ligonde, archbishop of Port-au-Prince; Mgsr Claudius Angenor, bishop of Les Cayes—to whom the declaration was read over the telephone, and who said he agreed to it; Mgsr Emmanuel Constant, bishop of Gonaives; Mgsr Alix Verrier, assistant bishop for Les Cayes; Mgsr Louis Kebreau, auxiliary bishop of Port-au-Prince; Mgsr Willy Romelus, bishop of Jeremie, now on a mission to the synod in Rome, to whom the declaration was read and who said he agreed with it 100 percent; and Mgsr Frantz Colimon, bishop of Port-de-Paix.

We ask that this declaration be read in all churches and chapels in all parishes on the Sunday after it is received.

PDCH Raps Macoute Electoral Disruption

FL231641 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Denunciations are being made all over Haiti against the Tonton Macoutes, who are continuing to apply pressure and create disorder at voter registration offices in the capital and in provincial towns. It is pointed out that, nevertheless, they are the only ones protected by the police. It is the Tonton Macoutes, who threaten the Provisional Electoral Council and who prevent voters from registering at departmental electoral offices and communal electoral offices, that the police protect.

In this connection, a press release from the Haitian Christian Democratic Party [PDCH] protests the intolerable violations by a series of individuals working for Duvalier's former thugs, professional killers, and enemies of democracy.

The PDCH protests the incident they caused on Wednesday, 21 October 1987, at the registration office on No 11 Route des Dalles [as heard], where PDCH members were able to identify an approximately 50-person group of thuggish agitators armed with revolvers and knives. They seriously wounded several citizens who were there to register. Several people came forth and stated openly what that group of bandits was up to. The bandits had sworn they would prevent elections from being held.

The PDCH note continues: We ask the government, which spends the taxpayers' dollars, if it is up to political parties to provide their own justice and to organize their own system for security and protection. Who is the government paying to enforce respect for the law and guarantee civil liberties and the protection of lives and property? Who stands to reap the benefits of insecurity? If not the government, then it must put a stop to this intolerable situation.

The note concludes: We ask the people to make all necessary arrangements to protect themselves and thwart these criminals, who are trying to prevent free, honest, democratic elections, until the government assumes its responsibilities before national and international public opinion.

Leaders Urged To Hold Honest Elections

FL262224 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil in Creole 1200 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] There have been many assassinations and many people have disappeared since 7 February 1986, not to mention the harsh treatment, disrespect of human rights, and arbitrary arrests and imprisonment which have taken place. These things have also characterized the new regime in power.

The questions presently being asked are the following: Are the principal leaders a party to what is being done—or not? Why do they close their eyes to and say nothing about a number of cases and acts about which they ought to say something? Is there a state within a state in Haiti? And also, is there a sector which the principal leaders do not control, that has turned itself into a state and does whatever it pleases?

In any case, an opportunity exists for the country's principal leaders to not leave in the minds and hearts of the entire Haitian people the same ugly souvenirs, the same bitter memories, left by the two Duvaliers and their entire team.

If the current leaders do not wish to leave such a souvenir they must do all they can to help hold honest elections in Haiti—because, one way or another, regardless of what any pharoah may do, the people must cross the Red Sea.

Bartlett Reaffirms Clean Election Commitment

PA231925 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] The Mexican Secretary of Government Manuel Bartlett said the electoral process is a responsibility the government shares with the parties and citizens. He reiterated President de la Madrid's commitment to hold clean elections in accordance with the laws and the people's will. He said that we Mexicans share the responsibility of giving our best efforts so the federal elections become the culminating event of our democracy.

Bartlett attended the first address given by Aguascaliente Governor Miguel Angel Barberena.

PRT Rejects Alliance To Support Cardenas

PA230450 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 16 Oct 87 p 4

[Article by Ubaldo Diaz]

[Text] The Revolutionary Workers Party [PRT] yesterday refused to establish an alliance with other leftist organizations to support Cuauhtemoc Cardenas' presidential candidacy, it was reported by Deputy Jose Luiz Diaz Moll.

Meanwhile, Cuauhtemoc Amezcua, deputy for the Popular Socialist Party [PPS], announced that the candidacy of the Jiquilpan visionary's [former Mexican President Lazaro Cardenas] son will become a reality over the weekend, given that the alliance will be discussed with other leftist fronts to counter the [PRI's] continuity plans.

Diaz Moll, a former activist of the Mexican Workers Party and a current PRT member, said his party's members will continue their electoral work in support of Rosario Ibarra de Piedra. The party does not foresee an alliance to support the PRI.

Diaz Moll said the leftist party supports the candidacy of Mrs Piedra—a defender of political prisoners' rights—and will organize her political campaign throughout the country. The campaign will begin on 22 November with a news conference in Mexico City.

The period to form alliances with the PMS [Mexican Socialist Party] and other organizations has practically ended without their having reached a consensus on the appointment of a single presidential candidate. He added that negotiations are still open for other posts, including deputies and senators.

Diaz Moll denied the report that Rosario Ibarra de Piedra's candidacy will be disregarded by the people. He asserted that the government has spread rumors of that kind to discredit the leader.

Furthermore, Amezcua stated that the PPS Central Committee will support Cuauhtemoc Cardenas' candidacy tomorrow because the country is facing a difficult situation and the government should no longer be controlled by reactionaries who want to sacrifice the people and who fail to resolve their own problems.

The situation led to the creation of a nationalist patriotic front whose main goal will be to struggle for the recovery of our national sovereignty and independence—which the government has progressively relinquished to the United States through the IMF and other U.S. banks. The front will also struggle to defend the workers salaries, which have plummeted during the last 5 years.

Amezcua added: The moment that the PRI members decided to support Carlos Salinas de Gortari's candidacy, leftist forces joined other forces to support the candidacy of a man who is willing to struggle and rescue our independence and sovereignty and to change the reactionary rules of continuity that the PRI wants to impose on the Mexican people.

BRIEFS

PPS Nominates Precandidate

The Popular Socialist Party [PPS] yesterday confirmed its decision to nominate Deputy Manuel Fernandez Flores as its presidential precandidate. However, it did not rule out the possibility of talks with other parties and democratic and leftist political groups to agree on a single candidate and a common platform. The PPS announced this at a news conference held yesterday at the end of the 85th plenum of the PPS Central Committee. The PPS announced that Fernandez Flores' nomination will be approved at the party's upcoming national congress to be held on 11, 12, and 13 December. [Summary] *[Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 19 Oct 87 PA p 4]*

El Salvador

Human Rights Leader Murdered in San Salvador

PA261507 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1410 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Official sources have confirmed that Herbert Anaya Sanabria, president of the private Salvadoran Human Rights Commission (CDHES), was murdered this morning by two unidentified men.

According to the reports, Sanabria was shot to death by two individuals carrying small-caliber weapons with silencers who waited for him at a parking lot in the Jose Simen Canas neighborhood in northeastern San Salvador.

Mirna Perla, Sanabria's wife, said her husband was in the parking lot to take her and their five children to school when he was shot.

According to witnesses, at 0635 local time (1235 GMT) two men "with their faces camouflaged" fired small-caliber weapons, presumably .38's, from a small vehicle. Anaya Sanabria "fell instantly to the ground."

A national police officer who arrived at the scene could not specify the type of weapon used or the exact time of the murder.

For many years Sanabria had been president of the private CDHES, an organization that has repeatedly reported constant violations of human rights by Jose Napoleon Duarte's government.

Group Blames Government

PA262116 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] This morning the nongovernmental CHDES held a news conference to state its position regarding the murder of Herbert Amaya Sanabria, who was shot to death this morning by unidentified individuals in the Jose Simeon Canas neighborhood.

Reinaldo Blanco, secretary of national and international relations of the nongovernmental CDHES, said the following regarding that organization's position:

[Begin recording] We have called this news conference today to protest in the strongest terms the cowardly murder of our companero, Herbert Ernesto Anaya Sanabria. We want to stress that complete responsibility for this murder falls on the Armed Forces High Command, the security corps, and the government itself. This is not a new or strange action. The Armed Forces and the High Command have carried out numerous actions since our organization was founded many years ago. Our companero Herbert Ernesto Anaya Sanabria is our fourth companero who has been killed; in addition, three others are missing.

This action reveals the government and the Armed Forces' inability to provide a viable and reasonable solution to to our country's most urgent problems. We believe that replies such as this do not contribute to the search for peace. On the contrary, it contradicts the government and the Armed Forces' alleged willingness to work within the framework of the Esquipulas II agreements.

At this time we are gathering all the necessary information regarding the details surrounding our companero's murder. However, we have learned from neighbors in that sector that they saw two individuals in civilian clothes fire at our companero in a parking lot when he was about to take his kids to school.

The murder of our companero falls within the framework of the constant threats and [words indistinct] against us and the persecution we are facing. It is a known fact that our companera Maria Victoria Hernandez Gonzalez was abducted by members of the National Police on 11 October, and that during the interrogations and threats—as part of psychological torture—she was told that the actions against our organization would continue and that they were going to discredit all the work we have done. We know these are vain efforts by the Armed Forces command and the government in an attempt to neutralize our work.

We know we have become an obstacle to their objective, to their democratic facade. Here is our message to the Armed Forces High Command and the government: Our slogan, our voice, and our determination are to continue defending the human rights of the Salvadoran people. Wherever there is injustice and actions of repression against any Salvadoran citizen we will be there to make our protest both nationally and internationally. [end recording]

These were the words of a nongovernmental CDHES member, who held a news conference this morning to reveal his position regarding the murder of the president of that commission. The CDHES members also pointed out that they are not going to allow this murder to remain unpunished with the pretext of the amnesty to be approved probably tomorrow by the National Congress, because the amnesty will cover all political assassinations, as they have indicated.

It is expected that the remains of Herbert Anaya Sanabria will be transferred around 1100 to the commission's headquarters located in the northern sector of the capital, in La Esperanza. The commission's members could not say when the funeral would take place.

UNTS To Protest Death

PA270400 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Report by Mauricio Funes]

[Text] The National Union of Salvadoran Workers [UNTS] called Deputy Communications Minister Roberto Viera's statements blaming extremists for Human Rights Commission President Herbert Anaya Sanabria's assassination as demagogic.

[Begin unidentified UNTS official recording] We will not allow Jose Napoleon Duarte and the Armed Forces High Command to go unpunished for Companero Herbert Anaya Sanabria's murder. [end recording]

The UNTS leaders were extremely angry over what they termed the vile murder of Herbert Anaya Sanabria, who devoted his entire tenure as head of the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission to making charges against the security forces and criticizing President Duarte's government.

The UNTS once again blamed the Army, the government, and the U.S. Embassy for this murder and said Deputy Minister Viera's statements were demagogic. Viera said a few hours after the crime that either the extreme left or the extreme right had committed the murder.

[Begin unidentified UNTS official recording] And those who kill people like Herbert Anaya Sanabria are without any doubt the same who lead the Armed Forces: the Armed Forces High Command. [end recording]

Without giving too many details, the UNTS leaders announced several reprisals for Anaya Sanabria's death. They said they would hold a wake tonight, and tomorrow there will be a demonstration in front of the U.S. Embassy to protest what they termed complicity by that diplomatic mission in the persecution to which the country's labor organizations are being subjected.

Rivera y Damas Comments on Caracas Talks

PA261400 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1400 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Homily by San Salvador Archbishop Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas at the Metropolitan Cathedral in San Salvador—live]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] I have a positive opinion of the Esquipulas Commission meeting at the apostolic nunciature. It is true that the talks were on the verge of failing, but this situation was peacefully overcome through informal talks, and, later, at a formal meeting, we reached agreements that were signed in a joint communique, the resolution of which textually states:

[Words indistinct] the following agreements:

1. To continue the process of dialogue through the work of the commissions that have already been installed.

2. That the commissions hold work meetings in Mexico City between 30 October and 4 November.

3. That the necessary consultations will be carried out to decide which commission will initiate its work first or if both commissions will work simultaneously.

Finally, the signers thank the moderator for his participation and the Venezuelan Government for its hospitality and cooperation in the development of this meeting. The joint communique is signed in Caracas on 23 October.

As you can see, much is left to be done. That is why I urge the Christian people to continue praying for peace during this month of the rosary. These prayers for peace must continue during the month that is dedicated to remembering our faithful dead. They must continue to be fervently dedicated to the God of life so there will be no further deaths as a result of the violence of the war. May God hear our prayers.

Gen Blandon Comments on Cease-Fire, Amnesty

PA231549 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] The Salvadoran Army has announced it will start military patrols in this capital in an effort to stop the current escalation of guerrilla attacks. General Adolfo Blandon, chief of the Army Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the increase in guerrilla attacks, especially against electricity lines, are being carried out in an effort to obtain publicity and take advantage of the meeting between the government and the rebels being held in Venezuela.

In a news conference, Blandon said that while President Duarte's government is making efforts for peace, the guerrillas are carrying out terrorist attacks against the people. The guerrilla attacks, termed as terrorist actions by Blandon, increased in the last few hours with a simultaneous attack against five electricity substations and the destruction of dozens of towers. The guerrillas, moreover, have taken responsibility for the explosion of at least two bombs, one in a photographic distributing agency in charge of manufacturing the electoral cards, and another one in a vehicle. Neither explosion caused casualties.

Blandon added that the Army is willing to obey a cease-fire unilaterally on 5 November, 90 days after the Esquipulas II agreements' signature, in case the negotiations between the government and the guerrillas, which are on their 2d day in Venezuela, should fail. However, the general said the government should make sure a cease-fire is constitutional, and he added that the Army is prepared to do it, but without forgetting its constitutional mission to maintain the security in the national territory. Blandon explained that the cease-fire decision is a political move that has military repercussions. He affirmed that the Armed Forces would not accept

as a precondition for a cease-fire dividing the national territory and allowing the guerrillas to be incorporated into the Army and having a say in the government.

Technical commissions of the Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas initiated talks in Venezuela in an attempt to reach an agreement for a cease-fire. Until now, the positions have been opposed because while the guerrillas propose enacting a cease-fire, establishing territories, and not giving up arms, the government demands their giving up arms and joining the democratic process.

Concerning the draft amnesty law submitted yesterday by the government to the National Assembly, Blandon argued that even though the Army does not oppose it, this would be a sacrifice to help the government reach peace.

About amnesty in Nicaragua, the military officer said amnesty is less complicated in El Salvador because in Nicaragua there are over 10,000 political prisoners, of which half are former Somozist guards. The chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff reiterated that the unity of the Army has not been broken, although he admitted some officers do not agree. Concerning Deputy Public Security Minister Colonel Reinaldo Lopez Huila, who is accused of favoring a position more in keeping with Christian Democracy, Blandon asserted his belief that no serious discrepancies exist between that officer and the rest of the Armed Forces.

The draft bill submitted to the Legislative Assembly will surely be amply discussed. As to the Armed Forces, that is part of the effort and the sacrifice we are making to help the government achieve peace in our country. Blandon said, I believe conditions regarding amnesty in the country are not as complicated as in Nicaragua, where they have to give amnesty to over 10,000 political prisoners, of whom 5,000 are former Somozist guards. Then, how far will the Ortega government comply with the amnesty as it is stipulated in the Esquipulas II document?

Regarding the Salvadoran Armed Forces, this might constitute some danger in the military sphere, but, according to Gen Blandon, this danger is not very important. We have no objection to the amnesty plan. Moreover, we have repeatedly said we support the Esquipulas document.

As for the cease-fire, we have to await developments from Caracas, Venezuela, where the commission is meeting at this moment, the officer said.

Asked about the role played by the Cuban Government in Central American regional politics, Blandon said:

[Begin recording] I feel that at this moment, in view of the Nicaraguan situation, the Cuban Government has to have a flexible position; that is, it should not have a rigid position, because the Nicaraguan problems are rather serious. We must not be deceived by some superficial gestures of the changes Daniel Ortega is attempting to present to the world. If we talk about freedom of the press, we are not just talking about *La Prensa* in Managua; if we talk about freedom of expression, we are not just talking about allowing Radio Catolica to broadcast. It is understood that this is general freedom of the press.

In this respect, one should also analyze the other sensitive points covered by Esquipulas II and those which constitute a serious problem for Nicaragua. The continued state of emergency, or state of siege, and the amnesty law are sensitive problems for Nicaragua. Despite their legal overtures—which are undoubtedly typically Marxist—you no doubt know they are adapting their Constitution to cover any future situation that could be damaging to them. For example, they have included in their Constitution a clause that says that any foreigner who has done anything positive for Nicaragua is a Nicaraguan citizen. This means the thousands of foreign advisers, including Soviets and Cubans in Nicaragua, may, at any time, be classified as Nicaraguans. There are no foreigners there. One should pay a lot of attention to these maneuvers when one is dealing with Marxists. [end recording]

Concerning Cuban military aid to Salvadoran rebels through Nicaragua, Gen Adolfo Blandon said:

[Begin recording] As a matter of fact, during the dialogue in San Salvador the terrorists wanted to take advantage of the event and attempted to smuggle weapons into the country. A patrol in Usulutan intercepted a column of 40 terrorists and they left 20 rifles, M-16's and R-15's, brand new, still greased. This shows that they had either just been received or they were being transferred from a storehouse to another place. That is why the contras are important because the more Nicaragua is occupied with the contras, the less attention it will pay to the FMLN. This is a very personal opinion. [end recording]

FMLN: Urban Attacks 'Reply' to Gen Blandon

PA241430 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] The FMLN leadership has issued a communique claiming responsibility for last night's sabotage actions. A rebel communique broadcast over a radio station said the attacks carried out last night in San Salvador were the guerrilla's reply to statements by General Adolfo Blandon.

According to the military chief, the Army was to deploy as of yesterday numerous troops in the streets of San Salvador to counter the increased FMLN urban attacks. To this, the guerrillas say the destruction of two power towers and two telephone junction boxes last night proves the operational capacity of their units. They added they will soon increase the scope of their urban attacks.

Nicaragua

Ramirez Comments on Esquipulas Compliance

FL261640 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2331 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado today in Mexico City said Nicaragua will not go beyond what is established in the Esquipulas II Agreement and that it will

limit itself to strict compliance with the document.

During a brief news conference held at the Benito Juarez International Airport in Mexico City, where Ramirez Mercado made a stopover on his way to Nicaragua after a 3-day official visit to Canada, the Nicaraguan vice president reiterated that the Sandinist government will not sit down and talk to the contras as suggested by the United States.

Ramirez believes there is not much of a chance that the Reagan administration will get the U.S. Congress to approve the additional $170 million it has requested to help the mercenary forces.

The Nicaraguan official denied that the U.S. Government is trying to strengthen its request for economic aid to the contras through the support of the Central American presidents who have visited Washington recently. Ramirez Mercado said the Esquipulas II document does not call for talks between the Nicaraguan Government and the contras; therefore, it is not up to Nicaragua to take the first step.

Ramirez said Nicaragua is strictly abiding by the letter and spirit of the Esquipulas II Agreement. It has lifted the press censorship, allowed priests and bishops to return to the country, begun a national dialogue, and established a cease-fire in four war zones.

Therefore, Ramirez added, Nicaragua is the only nation that is advancing in the fulfillment of the agreement, and it hopes in November the other Central American countries will compare what has already been done by the Sandinist government.

Likewise, the Nicaraguan vice president said Nicaragua is willing to accept a withdrawal of foreign military advisers within the framework of a global Central American agreement that establishes the region as a neutral zone free of the presence of military advisers or any other type of foreign military assistance.

Ramirez Mercado described his visit to Canada as positive even though no agreements were reached. He said talks were held to discuss the possibilities of Canada's participation in the organization that will supervise and control the mechanisms established in the Esquipulas II Agreement.

Borge on Yatama Leaders, Amnesty Acceptance

PA241920 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Report by Teofilo Santana]

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge, interior minister, tonight said that the leaders of the Miskito organization Yatama may enter the country if they accept amnesty. Commander Borge explained that the negotiations were carried out through a Moravian Church pastor named (Ondri Chaudrin) and that these negotiations will permit Brooklyn Rivera and other Yatama leaders to enter the country tomorrow. Commander Borge said this situation was analyzed and that initially it was decided that they would be authorized to enter the country without having to accept the amnesty. However, when it was learned that this was going to be used as a maneuver to set a precedent to be used by the leaders of the Somozist counterrevolutionaries in the FDN's so-called Nicaraguan Resistance, it was decided that the Yatama leaders headed by Brooklyn Rivera would not be able to enter the country without first accepting amnesty. Here is Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge:

[Begin Borge recording] [Words indistinct] although we have been willing to allow the Yatama leaders, including Brooklyn Rivera, Steadman Fagoth, and about 10 others, to come to Nicaragua, they must first accept amnesty. [Words indistinct] in the current situation this would establish a dangerous precedent because we are not willing to yield regarding the (?entrance into) the country—without accepting amnesty—of counterrevolutionary leaders while they act outside the law and against the [words indistinct] of the Nicaraguan Government. [end recording]

Edgar Chamorro Comments on Contra Past

On Contra Directorate

PA260020 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 22 Oct 87 p 5

[Part I of interview with former FDN leader Edgar Chamorro by unidentified reporter; no date or place given]

[Excerpt] [Chamorro] [Passage omitted] I left Nicaragua after the revolution for personal reasons.

Basically, the reasons had to do with my wife's relatives, and I had reasons of my own. I was not so clear about the path the revolution was taking, and after such a bloody and long war I figured the revolution was going to take a direction quite similar to the path followed by Cuba, and, quite concerned about that, I decided to leave Nicaragua. I went to Miami to wait and see what would happen.

In Miami I first worked at the university, and then some CIA agents invited me to become one of the contra leaders. The names of the agents are not so important, because their names were false, but they were U.S. citizens who also invited other Nicaraguans to join them for the same purpose. We were not elected; rather, we were chosen by a group of people.

This group of people in the United States were interested in organizing a political group to represent the military, most of them Somozist guard officers. We would be the

civilians. This is how the contras' directorate was established in 1981 and further developed in 1982. I was a part of the contras until 1984.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] Mr Chamorro, how did the CIA contact you, and who were the other Nicaraguans invited to join in the counterrevolutionary leadership?

[Chamorro] I was personally contacted at the university by an agent with a false name. The other people invited were: Mr Zeledon, who was working for the Quaker Oats Co. in Managua; Adolfo Calero, manager of the Coca-Cola Co. in Managua; Indalecio Rodriguez, who was dean and rector of the Central American University; Lucia de Salazar; and Colonel Enrique Bermudez, former member of Somoza's army.

The CIA appointed Enrique Bermudez to take care of military matters. That is, the directorate was a group of people that the United States thought would represent the Nicaraguan private sector, the elite sectors in the Nicaraguan past, the sectors that would represent the U.S. interests, and this is how the contra high command was established.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] We understand you were getting a salary. How much was it?

[Chamorro] The salaries were paid according to need, but they amounted to approximately $3,000 or more a month.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] To whom did you have to render account of the work you were performing as members of the counterrevolutionary directorate?

[Chamorro] That was done through a CIA contact who used the name of Tomas Castillo. He was the person who conveyed the information that was then passed on to the U.S. Government. This man, Mr Castillo, became famous when his name was brought into the open, when the Iran arms sale scandal began, when it became known that the funds were for the counterrevolutionary groups.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] Do you think the current contra directorate has decisionmaking authority in this war?

[Chamorro] The contra directorate is an appointed, not an elected group. It is there because the U.S. Administration wants it to be there. The political side of the contras, its political leaders, are there to speak out on behalf of the military. They are there to represent the contras' interests, which are U.S. interests defended by the United States.

From the very beginning the contra strategy has been to use a directorate made up of civilians to cover up for a group of Somozist Army criminals. However, there are now many Nicaraguans—mostly kidnapped or deceived peasants—involved in a small contra army who are also part of this.

The mid-level elements, the mid-level leadership are the ones we call Somozists in Nicargua, the same officers of the previous regime. Many of today's politicians also have a Somozist background. We must understand that the CIA has been changing directorate members to suit its needs of obtaining more money from the Congress to extend the war.

For example, in 1982 the directorate was made up of seven members. The CIA "proposed" [enarbolo] an alleged "peace initiative," claiming that the contras would be willing to establish a cease-fire should the Managua government accept certain conditions. Naturally, the conditions were hardly acceptable. The CIA did this intentionally.

The contras' strategy was to enable themselves to say they had made a proposal to promote a political and peaceful solution, but that the Sandinist government turned it down out of intransigence. Every time they wish to obtain funds from Congress they change the directorate and "propose" a new "peace initiative." The CIA says: Look, gentlemen, these people do want peace and democracy.

The contra directorate was changed again in 1985. A group called Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO), which was made up of Arturo Cruz, Alfonso Robelo, and Adolfo Calero, was established. Following CIA instructions, they also came up with a "peace initiative" for the Managua government that was based on a dialogue with the counterrevolutionary leadership.

It was also clear then that the CIA wanted to levy a condition that would be unacceptable to the Managua government. In this case, the CIA bore in mind that the Managua government had said it wanted nothing to do with the counterrevolutionary leadership because they lack decisionmaking power of their own. This is a fact; no directorate member has decisionmaking power, because they are only agents of the U.S. Administration.

This year, the contras have a new directorate called "Democratic Resistence." With it there is a new "peace initiative," which, as in the past, will serve as a trick or tactical maneuver to make Congress approve new funds; however, afterward they forget about the so-called "democratic demands."

Because they forget about the "democratic demands," the money is used to prolong the war. I realized that these maneuvers are used to make a lot of people believe the contras are forced to continue waging a war because the Sandinist government is intransigent. This is done to make the public believe the U.S. Government supports a group of contras advocating peace.

It is important to understand this: The Reagan administration has at no time sincerely sought to strengthen peace efforts, although I believe there must be some

optimism in the wake of the Central American presidents' efforts that led to the signing of an agreement. I believe the U.S. Government would be making a great mistake if it dares to claim that this signing is only a tactical maneuver.

On Contra 'Corruption'

PA260329 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 23 Oct 87 pp 1, 8

[Part II of interview with former FDN leader Edgar Chamorro by unidentified reporter; no date or place given]

[Text] [EL NUEVO DIARIO] What kind of corruption did you notice in the counterrevolutionary ranks? For example, there are reports of drug trafficking.

[Chamorro] Yes, the scandal over drugs is about to be studied more deeply. The problem arose in the structures that support the contras. The planes bringing weapons to Costa Rica were being used later to take drugs to the United States, and that is being investigated by several U.S. committees. However, that is only one aspect of the corruption.

There is more corruption of an economic nature in the northern area. The Congress still does not know where the $13 million in "humanitarian assistance" ended up. These funds are nowhere to be found. Some individuals say some of the contra chiefs have viewed the war with an eye for profit.

War, a "Business" [subhead]

For these people, war has become a "business" [preceding word in English], and that is immoral. This is one of the worst aspects of corruption, because this war is not meant to bring peace. War is thus being used for a purpose; the United States strongly insists that war is an incentive for the Nicaraguan Government to become democratic.

My experience has allowed me to confirm that the U.S. Administration is not seeking war as a means to an end, but has used it as an end in itself. We must emphasize this. The United States has prolonged this war; it has been a war of suffering and punishment for the Nicaraguan people, which—according to the United States—the U.S. defends.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] What are the most serious problems faced by the Somozists in their counterrevolutionary activities?

[Chamorro] The most serious conflicts within the contra ranks are reflected in the problems faced by the chiefs as a result of social decay. In the camps there are frequent fights over lovers and because of alcoholism, drugs, and corruption. There are arguments over privileges or favoritism; the latter is understandable because they are former guards with a corrupt mentality.

The Somozist Guard, which along with the CIA directs the terrorist actions, is a familiar force, a dynastic force that was loyal to one man: Somoza. Today it continues worshipping men; it continues being loyal to people, not a country, nor a people, nor a constitution. This must be understood by all who still do not understand how this works.

They Are Seeking a Past That Will Never Return [subhead]

When I thoroughly found out what was actually happening in Nicaragua, one of the things that struck me was the feeling of brotherhood, the great feeling of solidarity, the example of true brotherhood; a sense of national pride, of sovereignty, of independence; and along with this I saw the historical feelings of national dignity.

However, the counterrevolutionaries do not want to recognize those as great achievements. That is where their major problem lies. They only think about going back to the past, to an oligarchy, to a time when the private sector sought to benefit a minority. Meanwhile, the United States is wrong in wanting to present them as "freedom fighters"—they who have nothing good to offer.

They are not freedom fighters. They have nothing but rhetoric. They say they have to fight communism and Soviet imperialism. I feel the contras' social decay is very serious and that their sad, final ending has been marked, even if other things are said. The contras have failed.

The United States wants to present the contras as a group of Nicaraguans who wish to rescue the revolution, but that is untrue. Actually, some leaders are interested in recovering privileges, social advantages, economic opportunities; this has not been emphasized by the United States. Not much is said about the contras trying to destroy the historic achievements of this people.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] What do you think of the strategy that the U.S. Administration is promoting after the signing of the Esquipulas II agreements?

[Chamorro] The U.S. strategy tries to make it appear as if the Nicaraguan Government is not fulfilling the agreements signed in Guatemala, even though it is public knowledge that the Sandinist government is fulfilling the requirements faster than everyone else; it has formed the National Reconciliation Commission and it has taken other required steps.

I know of some saboteurs who want to have Nicaragua appear as if it has not fulfilled the peace agreement requirements. They are doing this in hopes of finding means in the future to bring the Nicaraguan Government before the OAS and to do the same that was done with the dictator Somoza.

In my political analysis I have observed contra agents accusing the Nicaraguan Government of being a dictatorship and calling the other governments in the region democratic governments. In this manner Calero, Bermudez, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, and other puppet agents of the United States are trying to isolate Nicaragua. That is what they are doing.

In the meantime they accuse the Sandinist government of stubbornness. The contras will again ask the Congress for more support, and they will repeat that they are obliged to continue with the war, to continue with the escalations, even to ask for more military air support to destroy Nicaraguan planes, because the Managua government does not accept its "peace initiatives."

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] Could you describe what type of luxurious activities the current directorate of the counterrevolutionaries engage in?

[Chamorrro] I had many doubts over just that, and, therefore, I have been separated from the contras for nearly 3 years. I really do not know.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] When and how did you begin to reject the contras?

[Chamorro] I began to have very serious doubts in 1983 when the United States was working with the contra groups. First, there were some very obvious lies. One lie was that the war was going to be short, that it would only last for 6 months to 1 year as a means to pressure Nicaragua to open the political process. We were being told the same thing the following year, and I realized then that there were people interested in the war for its own sake.

That was a very unfair lie. The second lie was that the contras were going to bring democracy to the country. However, the methods being used were not democratic methods; terrorist methods were used, such as mining highways and ports, attacking civilian towns and cooperatives, destroying the Nicaraguan infrastructure, and punishing the Nicaraguan people with embargoes and other forms of economic pressure.

It was a bad idea to take away our loans and to pressure neighboring countries which had been much more generous to Nicaragua in the past. The United States has been exerting diplomatic and political pressure on those countries, and it has not allowed countries such as Mexico and Venezuela to work toward an institutionalization of the democratic process in Nicaragua.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] Were there any threats against your life after you raised charges against the CIA?

[Chamorro] No. I was the target of some persecution; they tried to expel me from the United States, where I was living. My deportation was prevented, thanks to the U.S. press and thanks to the television media and the people, including some members of the Congress, who knew me and knew of my line of work and defended me.

That was in 1985. I was then deprived of my work permit for 2 years, which was a considerable inconvenience. I started giving lectures and talks on Nicaragua, but without receiving a penny. I was subject to other inconveniences typical in cases involving politicians—higher taxes and isolation from other people.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] What do you think of the strategic defeat of the contras?

[Chamorro] The defeat of the contras is part of the original design. The contras were born defeated. That must be understood, because the contras originated when the CIA put together some fascist Argentine military men in their country with a group of former Somozists, and that is no recipe for success. There was no democracy in the original design.

The United States placed Somozists into positions as contra military chiefs. That is something I still cannot understand. I do not know if the United States was doing this on purpose to put a destructive individual in the contra military leadership so he could be discarded, allowing the United States to move on to something else.

Some projects are made with dispensable elements, and placing the Somozists there is like having a destructive element inherent in that group. The contras never, never had an impact on the Nicaraguan people.

Perhaps some relatives of the contras, or those who were recruited by force and later stayed, or perhaps those who were unaware of things or very much unaware of the news, or perhaps those who were much in need of certain basic things such as clothing or shoes, or people who need certain things that the United States had to offer, such as dollars and similar things, actually support the contras.

There were individuals who were destructive and who condemned the contras to failure. The contras never obtained support. They never received support from the Nicaraguan people. I never heard a speech made by the contras saying that they were going to improve the lives of the Nicaraguan people, the health of the Nicaraguan people, or their education. Practically all they talked about was fighting communism. It was very wordy; it was a lot of propaganda.

It is customary in the field of public relations to make believe that the contras were a great thing, because they were supported by the United States. However, the contras never had much substance. Furthermore, the contras are more a matter of impressions than substance. Lately there has been an attempt to modernize the contras by giving them more technology, more missiles for shooting down helicopters, and communications technology to make them more effective.

One of the excuses the contras give for their military ineffectiveness is a lack of technology. The contras claim they could not confront the Nicaraguan Army and that they therefore engaged in attacking cooperatives and settlements, ambushing civilians, which fatally backfired on their own structure.

There are many other elements, such as the lack of having a true Nicaraguan mission, because it was becoming an army that was a controlled extension of the CIA. The greatest problem in leadership was the excessive CIA control, which turned the contras into a Nicaraguan army controlled by the CIA, or a colonialist army.

[EL NUEVO DIARIO] What was your position within the contra leadership, and what are you now going to do to help peace?

[Chamorro] My position in the contra directorate was in the field of public relations, in the field of communications. I supervised the contra radio stations in Honduras to make sure the reporters spoke well. The contras had an organization for paying the reporters in Honduras, as well as the chiefs of the media and television. There was also a strong system with the international press, which was to be constantly accusing the Nicaraguan Government.

With the international press we also tried to promote the idea that the contras were going to bring democracy to Nicaragua, but all of this was done in an atmosphere of propaganda and marketing. Many tactics, similar to the ones used for promoting products, were used. That was my job. I was also in charge of public relations.

Here in Nicaragua I want to make as many contacts as I can with all the organizations, commissions, or groups that are working for amnesty to become a reality, and so that a greater number of Nicaraguans who are armed and are being deceived will understand that the United States is using them as instruments.

I do not want Nicaraguans from either side to die. I do not want Nicaraguans dying on this side, nor do I want Nicaraguans to die fighting for a foreign nation. I think this must end, and we must promote amnesty. Therefore, I believe that more than talking, we must carry out actions. That is why I am here.

I want to talk with the clergy and the commission members and tell them about the doubts I have about the contras, and my moral questions. I believe the war as it is presented is immoral, it is unjust, and, besides, it has the wrong ethical base. I would like to form part of a peace commission, but for the time being I only have 3 weeks available. I have a commitment with an office in Washington.

I have to be over there for the debates. Lately I have been opposed to military assistance, and I am going to oppose the assistance to the contras. It is a waste of lives and money.

Panama

Security Council Discusses Davis, Esquivel

PA270102 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2333 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] With the announcement of a contingency plan for IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification], the Panamanian National Security Council meeting ended this afternoon. Here are details of the report.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] The National Security Council meeting that was called by President Eric Arturo Delvalle ended this afternoon. The National Security Council, after almost 6 hours, ended by issuing a communique that we will now read:

Convoked by President Eric Arturo Delvalle, the National Security and Defense Council met to assess the actions that have taken place in the past 4 months on the part of the head of U.S. diplomacy in our country and of other ranking officials of that mission, which include the unexplainable attendance at strictly political events, as that staged yesterday at Omar Torrijos Herrera International Airport on the occasion of the arrival in the country of the vice president of the Republic.

Such actions by those diplomatic officials, as well as officials of the International Agency for Development, AID, constitute an attitude that violates the standard that all diplomatic officials should not meddle in the domestic affairs of the country and government before which they are accredited.

The foreign minister was duly instructed by the council to examine as soon as possible the actions and attitudes of the members of the above-mentioned diplomatic mission to determine whatever actions are warranted on the part of the national government.

The council evaluated the current situation of IRHE and its repercussions on national security and issued precise instructions that a contingency plan be drafted immediately to guarantee the operation of that institute and the rendering of its service to all users.

After this communique at the conclusion of the National Security Council meeting, Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera said:

[Reporter]Does that mean that there might be a break in relations or that Ambassador Davis will be ordered to leave the country?

[Cabrera] Regarding a break in relations, I think that is not the case. We are not faced with such an extreme measure. Simply and purely, it is a case of assessing the conduct of the foreign diplomats accredited to our country—of whom we are the direct interlocutors—to see how it harmonizes with the responsibilities, rights, privileges, and obligations established by the norms of international law in their role as foreign diplomats accredited to a friendly country.

[Reporter] Has thought been given to expelling any of those diplomats?

[Cabrera] Regarding the topic of expelling foreign diplomats, the instructions by the National Security and Defense Council is that each and every one of the cases mentioned by the local and the national media be studied carefully to present the result of this examination at the next meeting of the National Security and Defense Council, so that the national government can take the appropriate measures.

[Reporter] How did the council evaluate the statements by Dr Roderick Esquivel?

[Cabrera] Which ones?

[Reporter] In his first statement, he blamed the government and justice minister and Nander Pitty for what he termed the blunder that is occurring in the country.

[Cabrera] Fundamentally, more than those internal aspects, we examined the international connotations in the face of a recognized situation of destabilization of the country by external elements in association with local political groups.

[Reporter] When is the next Security Council meeting scheduled?

[Cabrera] Whenever the president chooses to convoke it, which I imagine will be shortly.

[Reporter] Mr Deputy Foreign Minister, do you refer basically to the meeting held by Dr Esquivel with Elliott Abrams? [sentence as heard]

[Cabrera] That would also be another matter for examination. Thank you. [end recording]

Abadia Says Ties With U.S. 'Somewhat Cold'

PA262318 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias has said relations between the United States and Panama currently are somewhat cold. He said, nonetheless, that Panamanian-U.S. diplomatic relations will have to improve.

The Panamanian foreign minister, who participated in a meeting of the Contadora and Support Groups in Punta del Este, Uruguay, said there is massive disinformation against Panama funded by the U.S. Government.

Esquivel To File Charges on Office 'Sacking'

PA261859 Panama City Exitosa in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Vice President Roderick Esquivel has announced he will file formal charges regarding the sacking of his office on the 13th floor of the Banco Nacional Tower on Via Espana. The vice president of the Republic says personal articles and belongings were taken out of his office and damaged.

According to our reports, the vice president received from his former official escorts a set of keys to the new lock to his office. His secretarial staff has been denied entry to his office. When he opened the office, he found that it had been sacked, and he has lost personal property such as computers, furniture, paintings, and other objects.

Banco Nacional officials said that according to the building's watchmen, the only people who were on the 13th floor—where the office of the vice president is located—were members of the Defense Forces led by Major (Depuirre).

Argentina

SFRY's Mojsov Arrives for Official Visit

PY252227 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2113 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA)—President Raul Alfonsin and his cabinet ministers, including Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille, received Yugoslav President Lazar Mojsov just before 1800 at the metropolitan airport. Mojsov is here on an official visit.

After the usual honors had been rendered and the protocol introductions had been made, Mojsov departed for the Hotel Plaza without making any remarks to the press.

Meets With Alfonsin

PY261925 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1340 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Oct (NA)—During the meeting held at Government House this morning, Argentine and SFRY Presidents Raul Alfonsin and Lazar Mojsov enhanced "the friendshisp ties that bind the two peoples" and "the common efforts each country has made in favor of universal peace."

Alfonsin and Mojsov met for more than 1 hour to analyze a broad range of issues. After the meeting, Alfonsin decorated his Yugoslav counterpart with the "Order of San Martin Grand Collar."

Later on, in the White Room of the Casa Rosada, the two presidents received Nuncio Ubaldo Calabresi and the other diplomats accredited to Argentina.

The two presidents discussed bilateral trade, the possibility of adopting a common policy regarding the foreign debt at the Group of 77 and the Nonaligned Movement, disarmament and peace issues, and the Central American conflict.

When Alfonsin bestowed the Order of San Martin on Mojsov, he pointed out that "the decoration honored the friendship of the Argentine people with the Yugoslav people, and was a way of thanking President Mojsov for his efforts on behalf of universal peace."

Thanking Alfonsin for the great honor bestowed on him, Mojsov said he considered the decoration "a new tie that strongly binds the two countries in their fair struggle for democratic relations and for equality in international rights."

Mojsov also emphasized that the decoration will "more tightly bind the Argentine and Yugoslav peoples in friendship and traditional cooperation."

"We will be as strongly bound," he said, "as the links of this collar, of this marvelous decoration you have bestowed upon me."

After the ceremony, the two presidents, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, and the members of the diplomatic corps attended a luncheon at Government House.

Croatian Group Protests Visit

PY271447 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1306 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Oct (TELAM)—A group of Croatians demonstrated this morning as SFRY President Lazar Mojsov was placing a wreath at the foot of the San Martin monument at San Martin Square, in front of the San Martin Palace. Two people were detained.

The incident, which occurred at 0910, began when President Mojsov arrived at the square where a group of Croatians were demonstrating and carrying posters in Spanish demanding that Mojsov leave Argentina, stating that Yugoslavia violates human rights, and calling for the release of political prisoners. One poster, written in Serbo-Croatian, read: Croatia Must Be Free—The Yugoslavs Are Its Jailers.

As Mojsov arrived, the group started shouting: Yugoslav murderers! Communist murderers! Argentina, Argentina!

When the demonstrators—comprising some 15 people—tried to get close to Mojsov, the police led them away and detained two members of the group.

Alfonsin To Visit Italy 9-11 December

PY241518 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1322 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 23 Oct (DYN)—It has been announced that President Raul Alfonsin will visit Rome in December. During his stay, Alfonsin and Italian authorities will sign a number of economic cooperation agreements worth $270 million. The money—a long-term, low interest credit—is to be invested in Argentine small- and medium-sized industries.

This was reported today by Jorge Romero, Foreign Ministry international economic relations secretary, who held a news conference to explain the economic cooperation and trade agreements that will be signed between Argentina and Italy.

The high-ranking official said: "Argentina attaches great importance to the cooperation that Italy can offer us in this project to develop small- and medium-sized industries because the Italian growth model [words indistinct] can be reasonably applied here."

Romero added that he will be leaving for Rome on 28 October and that during 2 days of negotiations he and Italian officials "will work on perfecting the agreements and necessary instruments that will be signed by President Alfonsin" when he visits Italy from 9-11 December.

He added that negotiations through which Italy will grant Argentina a $270 million credit to be invested in the small- and medium-sized Argentine industrial sector "are very advanced." Romero added that he is traveling to Rome "with the hope of continuing discussions on ways and means to obtain this credit" because "we believe it can be significantly extended."

This loan, which may be encompassed within the framework of credits totaling about $750 million if bilateral negotiations are successful, is to be paid back according to the following terms: in 20 years, with a 5-year grace period, and at a yearly interest rate of 1.75.

Romero said that "other significant projects" at the bilateral economic cooperation level "in the fields of public works, particularly in the energy and telecommunications sectors" are being discussed but he declined to give further details because "there are still some issues to be ironed out." [passage omitted]

'Common Market' With Brazil To Be Created

PY262041 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1140 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Oct (DYN)—According to a specialized newspaper, Argentina and Brazil have agreed to create a common market that will do away with protectionist customs tariffs within a period of 10 years.

The newspaper *Ambito Financiero* said that on 23 October the Argentine Foreign Ministry received [Brazilian] President Sarney's approval of the documents to implement the common market, and that President Alfonsin had approved them the day before.

According to the same source, the final touches on the accord were made during the visit to Brazil by International Economic Relations Secretary Jorge Romero and Beatriz [name indistinct]. During the visit Jorge Romero met with Brazilian Finance Minister Luiz Bresser Pereira.

The date for the implementation of the accord has not yet been established. The measure, however, does not mean that previously signed agreements such as those regarding a common currency for bilateral trade, the investment fund, car manufacturing cooperation, the formation of binational enterprises, and the production of food will become obsolete.

When the accords are implemented, the production of goods will be aimed at a potential market of 180 million people.

The creation of the common market will be established through an agreement that will be submitted to the respective Congresses for their approval and conversion into law.

USSR Places Order for Fish Purchases

PY230240 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1211 GMT 17 Oct 87

[Text] Mar del Plata, 17 Oct (TELAM)—A fish-processing plant in this city has received an order from the Soviet Union for 10,000 tons of hake.

According to the agreement reached, the Estrella del Mar plant will make this shipment, which is the first to a nontraditional market, before the end of the year.

Estrella del Mar manager Oscar Poletti said they had agreed to ship frozen hake fillets. Part of this shipment will leave from Mar del Plata port, and the rest from Madryn port.

The businessman disclosed that the agreement with the Soviet Union was signed 2 months ago, and it opens a great opportunity for exports to a nontraditional market.

He added that there are also great possibilities for exporting fish to European countries belonging to the EEC. The Mar del Plata businessmen ended by stating that the first shipment will leave for the Soviet Union before the end of October.

Alfonsin Report on Easter Uprising Cited

PY231954 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Oct 87 p 11

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN)—President Raul Alfonsin reportedly ratified the view that the Easter Week uprising of Army officers headed by former Lieutenant-Colonel Aldo Rico was strictly a military offence, thus paving the way for the case to be tried by a military court, reliable sources revealed.

The President's report was sent to the San Martin Federal Appeals Court prosecution, in answer to the latter's request for a definition on the point. A copy of the presidential report was in turn sent to the offices of the Prosecutor-General who is to rule on the question of competence raised by Rico's defence.

San Martin court prosecutor Juan Carlos Rodriguez Basabilvaso refused to give any details on the presidential report on the grounds that it should be the President himself who discloses it.

The request for the presidential report was prompted by the discrepancy between the terms of the speech delivered by President Alfonsin in Plaza de Mayo on Easter Sunday, in which he referred to the Easter Week events

as "an uprising," and the message which accompanied the due obedience bill, according to which the country was "on the brink of civil war."

Reliable sources said that the President had "reconciled" both statements in his report, claiming that the fact that it was a mutiny was not incompatible with the country having been on the brink of civil war.

Court sources estimated that the Prosecutor-General's office would not produce a ruling on the question of competence until Andres d'Alessio, recommended for the post by the government, is sworn in, which will not take place until the Senate approves the recommendation in extraordinary congressional sessions. [passage omitted]

Army Chief Caridi Reshuffles Commanders

PY262228 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1146 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Oct (DYN)—According to today's edition of the newspaper *Cronica*, Army Chief of Staff General Jose Caridi changed the assignments of different commanders and high-ranking officers who participated in the Holy Week and La Tablada incidents.

The newspaper says that Lieutenant Colonel Luis Polo will be assigned to a new post. During the Holy Week crisis, Polo was the commander of the 14th Airborne Infantry Regiment in Cordoba and has been working with the General Staff the last few months.

Lieutenant Jose Alonso will continue working in the Support Division with headquarters in Palermo.

The newspaper adds that Lt Col Ernesto Fernandez Maguer, commander of the 3d Infantry Regiment when problems arose there [the regiment's 27 September self-confinement to barracks]; Lt Col Carlos Martinez Brandan, present commander of the 6th Infantry Regiment; and Lt Col Ernesto Villarruel, from the Infantry Inspection Department, will be moved to the Army General Staff.

Lt Col Angel Daniel Leon, who was a commander in Tucuman during the Holy Week incident, and who was later assigned to the General Staff, will be transferred from the Planning Directorate to the Commission of Special Projects.

The newspaper adds that Lt Col Victorio Listorti, a participant in the Holy Week incident, will be transferred from the Military Institute, where he held the rank of General Staff officer, to the command of the V Corps in Bahia Blanca.

Lt Col Luis Lagos, the commander of the Rio Mayo 37th Infantry Regiment at the time of the acts of indiscipline during the Constitution swearing-in ceremony on 25 May that resulted in trials of several subordinates, will be transferred to the War College.

The newspaper also mentions that Communications Major Juan Carlos Vide W. has been named as Caridi's assistant and Major Angel Cabellos has been named second commander of the 37th Regiment.

Central Bank President on Economic Situation

PY241730 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 Oct 87 p 3

[Text] (NA-DYN)—The president of the Central Bank, Jose Luis Machinea, affirmed yesterday that the economic measures adopted by the government in the last days are aimed at opening Argentina's economy as well as restructuring the public sector, claiming that "the fact that these are temporary measures, as the wage and price freeze plan, does not mean the economic programme won't be a short-term project."

During a lunch organized by the Argentine Institute of Finance Executives (IAEF), Machinea mentioned that by the end of January the restrictions on all imports would be lifted in the context of "a programme which attempts to end the model of a closed economy and which would stimulate the export and import sectors."

Regarding the new economic measures, Machinea said that the aim was also "to turn Argentina into a capital market."

The Central Bank president also criticized the role the government has played in the last years and that its function was that of a "producer capable of subsidizing firms in difficulty," which meant that private firms could not compete with public ones.

According to Machinea, the demand for a better distribution of wealth created continuous changes in the economy which the state accepted, thus raising the fiscal deficit and producing an inflationary explosion within the country.

"An end has come to the period when businessmen come to the state for help," concluded Machinea. "And if prices go up, they'll have to tell the country why they're going up."

Further on CGT Call for 4 November Strike

PY261950 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1754 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Oct (TELAM)—The CGT [General Confederation of Labor] Executive Board has decided that the stoppage that has been called for 4 November, on which date a mobilization will take place,

will be held between 1200 and 2200. The board, however, must still decide the position of the transportation and press unions during the strike.

This information was released by CGT leader Saul Ubaldini after a CGT Executive Board meeting that began at noon and ended after 1430.

Ubaldini reported that the Greater Buenos Aires delegations have been invited to a meeting on Wednesday at 1600 to prepare for the stoppage called by the CGT, adding that the CGT remains in permanent session and that the mobilization committee will decide on the position to be taken by the transportation and press unions.

Bolivia

Government To Return Soviet Mineral Equipment

PY231924 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 14 Oct 87 p 1

[Text] According to Alfredo Olmedo, Foreign Ministry under secretary for economic and financial affairs, the Bolivian Government has decided to return machinery acquired from the USSR for a total of approximately $5 million and to revise the contracts it signed with the Machinoexport Company.

Olmedo said Bolivia is unable to make this purchase despite the existence of the pertinent purchasing documents. He added that in view of the decrease in international tin prices, Bolivian authorities have had to reconsider the purchases in question.

The machinery acquired was to be used in the Machacamarca volatilization complex, which had to stop its activities in view of the reorganization implemented by COMIBOL.

Olmedo said a revision of the agreements signed with the Machinoexport Company will be discussed with Soviet officials.

After stating that the results obtained at La Palca were not the best, which caused the officials to change their minds, Olmedo added: "We are studying the best way to return the machinery that was sent for Machacamarca."

He said a Soviet delegation will arrive in Bolivia within the next 10 days and the proposals will be discussed so the Soviet delegation can be informed of Bolivia's position.

Olmedo said there are some reservations about the Soviet offer to grant $200 million because the Bolivian Government has to determine whether the terms are favorable or not. He added that the Bolivian Government must study the conditions and establish how the money can be invested.

The Bolivian Government believes the USSR did not fulfill some of its commitments, mainly those regarding the operation of the La Palca complex.

Despite this statement, Olmedo said the government hopes to achieve agreement with the USSR because it "has shown its willingness to resolve problems" of a bilateral nature.

Agreement Signed With PRC on Consulates

PY231505 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 17 Oct 87 p 7

[Text] The Governments of Bolivia and the PRC yesterday signed two corresponding agreements for the establishment of general consulates in Santa Cruz de la Sierra and Guangdong, respectively, in order to stimulate bilateral relations and strengthen the already important diplomatic relations between the two nations.

The documents were signed by PRC Vice Foreign Minister Zhu Qizhen and Alfredo Olmedo, Bolivian bilateral policy deputy minister, during a special ceremony. Diplomatic officials of the two countries were present at the ceremony.

The corresponding agreements regulate the opening of general consulates in the two countries in accordance with the Vienna convention on consular relations: the holders of diplomatic and official passports will be exempt from visa requirements for an indefinite time, during the time the passports are valid. PRC citizens holding service passports, equivalent to the Bolivian official passports, will enjoy equal treatment in Bolivia.

Zhu Qizhen had a tight agenda in Bolivia, which included a protocol visit to President Victor Paz Estenssoro and Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal, a press conference, and a farewell.

Bedregal decorated Zhu Qizhen with the Condor de los Andes Medal at the level of Grand Officer. During the ceremony, Bedregal highlighted the excellent level of relations between Bolivia and the PRC and stressed the Bolivian desire to strengthen ties even more within the framework of the economic, technical, and cultural agreements." [quotation mark as published]

During his talk with journalists, Zhu Qizhen said that on the occasion of his meeting with President Victor Paz Estenssoro he transmitted to the Bolivian president the cordial greetings of PRC President Li Xiannian, and handed him a personal letter from the PRC president.

"During the conversations, both parties expressed their satisfaction regarding the development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the PRC and Bolivia."

Zhu Qizhen added: "We also expressed our satisfaction with the continuous efforts to further strengthen PRC-Bolivian relations. We see promising prospects and enormous potential in this area."

Zhu Qizhen announced the visit to Bolivia of a series of specialized PRC delegations to exploit the possibilities of mutual cooperation and trade and industrial exchange between the two countries, particularly in the mining area.

COB, Government Foresee 'Social Conflicts'

PY262233 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1520 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] La Paz, 26 Oct (EFE)—The government of Victor Paz Estenssoro and the COB today agreed, albeit for different reasons, that a wave of social conflicts will take place in Bolivia.

The Bolivian Government warned that the social conflicts will be prompted by "some political parties" that want to destabilize the current administration.

In the COB's opinion, the social conflicts will be prompted by the government's rejection of an economic and social proposal.

Interior Minister Juan Carlos Duran today stated that the government is trying to meet the needs of some labor sectors. "However, it does not seem that the entire nation has realized that we experienced a serious crisis and that the state's economic system is very deteriorated," he said.

Duran said the economic crisis has forced the government to reject the COB's proposal: a salary increase of more than 300 percent and more jobs.

For his part, COB Executive Secretary Simon Reyes Riveras has said that, in view of the government's refusal to increase salaries, the trade union organizations will review the implementation of "radical measures" to pressure the executive branch during a meeting of trade union leaders scheduled for this week.

State-Owned Mining Enterprises Close Down

PY261821 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1026 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] La Paz, 25 Oct (TELAM-EFE)—According to a report from the Mining Promotion Center, only 3 of the 25 state-owned mines and metalworking and volatilization plants are currently operating.

According to this report, which was delivered to EFE today, six mines (Corocoro, Matilde, Morococala, Japo, Machacamarca and Colavi) have been permanently closed.

The Oruro and Karachipampa metalworking plants, as well as the Palca volatilization plant, have been temporarily closed.

The mining districts of Colquiri, Caracoles, Viloco, Huanuni, Bolivar, Santa Fe, San Jose, Colquechaca, Unificada, Tasna, Chocaya, Chorolque, and the Vinto Metalworking Plant are either shut down for maintenance or temporarily closed.

The Bolivian mining crisis, which started in October 1985 when international tin prices dropped, has left 23,000 Bolivian workers jobless.

Mining and Metallurgy Minister Jaime Villalobos stated last Saturday that the goverment hopes to fully rehabilitate COMIBOL in 1988. Villalobos expects the new measures to help the enterprises make a profit and provide more jobs.

Figures Provided on Coca Crop Destruction

PY231936 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 8 Oct 87 p 1

[Text] Agriculture, Campesino Affairs and Livestock Affairs Minister Jose Guillermo Justiniano has said Bolivia has destroyed approximately 300 hectares of coca crops to date.

Justiniano said the government is determined to fulfill its commitment, and to seek the best way to respond to the concerns of the countries that participated in the recent Vienna meeting on the matter.

He said the coca was destroyed in the Chapare and Yungas regions in accordance with agreements signed with producers and leaders of the Single Trade Union Confederation of Bolivian Peasant Workers.

Minister Justiniano was one of the main speakers for our government in the meeting with the UNFDAC [United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control] executive director to report on the coca destruction program.

The national Antidrug Commission continues to produce results. A few hours ago it completed a study on the fight against drug trafficking in our country and the training of special troops.

Jorge Alderete Rosales told reporters that the Bolivian Government is fulfilling all its commitments. He excused himself for not revealing further details because "some of the details are still missing," and they should be considered by the government first.

Rosales maintained, however, that the coca substitution job continues without problems in the different regions, thanks to the support of the international community.

Brazil

Sarney Said Disappointed at Lack of Support

PY242028 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 23 Oct 87 p 5

[Text] Brasilia—"It was not as I had imagined," said President Jose Sarney yesterday, expressing his disappointment at the cabinet changes. During an address to the nation only 15 days ago, the president had asked for a free hand in the composition of his cabinet.

Sarney said similar things during separate meetings with two politicians at Planalto Palace, thus giving vent to his feelings. Sarney blamed his difficulties in forming his own government team on the division within the PFL and the meeting of the PMDB governors.

Sarney nervously and dejectedly admitted: I was not able to create the proper conditions as I wished.

According to the two politicians, Sarney agreed that the institutional crisis was aggravated by the difficulty of getting an administration to work together in a government program. The president also admitted that the lack of government stability is fueling the popular feeling—detected by different surveys—that a call for general elections next year is necessary.

I know that, he admitted.

The president further explained that during the process of cabinet reform after the sundering of the Democratic Alliance, he fostered the idea that he only had two options—the sincere support of the PMDB or a call for new elections—but in fact he was working for new multiparty support of the government.

According to Sarney's diagnosis yesterday, the first difficulty encountered by the plan was the "split" within the PFL, after which only the faction of Communications Minister Antonio Carlos Magalhaes stayed with the plan. According to the president, the PFL's mistake allowed the PMDB to recover and to sponsor the political event that again left him unavoidably tied to the party: the PMDB governors meeting that ended with the "Rio de Janeiro declaration."

According to a deputy, Sarney feels somehow betrayed by Rio de Janeiro Governor Moreira Franco over the incident—not because he hosted the meeting, but because he allowed Ulysses Guimaraes, as an honored guest and acting president of the country, to increase his political clout even more as a result of the meeting.

It is hard, coming from this young man whom I have helped so much, Sarney has reportedly said.

Finance Minister Discusses Wage Increases

PY240242 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Finance Minister Bresser Pereira today met with union leaders, businessmen, and employees. He said the real wage increases should not be greater than 10 percent above the inflation calculated since June. This will represent about a 30-percent wage increase in all, the minister said as he presented a document entitled Salaries: A Necessary Realism. This document will be analyzed by the labor court. For Bresser, the problem is forgetting 1986.

[Begin Bresser recording] The main problem is to (?forget) 1986, because that was a bad year fraught with mistakes, although it brought a good but artificial standard of living for the people. It cost us all too much. [end recording]

Argentina Expresses Interest in Enriched Uranium

PY242015 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0250 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 23 Oct (EFE)—Argentina has confirmed its interest in purchasing 5 tons of enriched uranium from Brazil. Brazilian officials have said this amount of enriched uranium, which is intended for use in Argentine nuclear plants, is worth $1.4 million.

Nuclebras President Licinio Seabra has disclosed that in mid November a mission from the CNEA will meet with Brazilian officials in Rio de Janeiro to sign a contract to that effect.

Brazil will sell Argentina 0.85-percent enriched uranium, a grade that meets specifications for Argentine nuclear plants.

In early September, Brazil harnessed the technology for enriching uranium through the ultracentrifuge and centrifuge [ultracentrifugacion y centrifugacion] method. Brazil thus joined the club of highly developed nations in the nuclear technology field.

Enriched uranium sales between Brazil and Argentina are possible under the cooperation agreement aimed at a gradual economic integration of the two countries that was signed by Presidents Jose Sarney and Raul Alfonsin.

PSD Request for Electoral Registration Approved

PY261748 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Oct 87 p 2

[Text] Twenty years after it was dissolved by Institutional Act II (AI-2), the Social Democratic Party (PSD) is returning to national political life. On the night of 22 October the seven judges of the Superior Electoral Courts unanimously approved the "new PSD" registration.

PSD national President Luiz Pacces Filho yesterday reported that his party is already organized in the 11 states (2 more than the 9 required by law), in which it has offices.It has offices in more than 20 percent of the counties. According to Pacces, the PSD will not include the big names of national politics among its ranks. The PSD is basing its new existence on "the great yearning of the people," to hold direct presidential elections immediately. A candidate has not been chosen yet, but he or she will "probably be an important businessman or a famous professor who will have to defend a really centrist philosophy to rescue the country from the current political chaos." he said.

Pacces said the "PSD will use its old charisma" to become popular and successful.The PDS's first test will be the 15 November 1988 elections, when the party will present candidates for the mayoralties and town councils of the state capitals and smaller towns.

Chile

Further on Letelier Case, U.S. Statement

Interior Minister Cited

PY270229 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 18 Oct 87 pp A-1, C-5

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez has stated that in the next few days the Foreign Ministry will release a communique concerning the charges leveled by the U.S. State Department in the Letelier case. "In principle, the Foreign Ministry has already released a communique concerning the U.S. State Department statement, and we should use this communique as a reference because it reflects the government's position," Fernandez said.

Minister Fernandez added that the Foreign Ministry is carefully studying the case, and that in the next few days, as soon as all the elements of the U.S. State Department statement become available, the Foreign Ministry will announce the government's final position on this matter.

[Question] What instructions have been given to the Chilean ambassador to the United States, Hernan Felipe Errazuriz?

[Fernandez] This information will be released by the Foreign Ministry. The Foreign Ministry is studying this issue. At an appropriate time, the Foreign Ministry will release a communique on this issue, as was the case last Friday. This information is to be released by the Foreign Ministry. This matter must be studied. It must be analyzed. All the elements must be thoroughly studied.

What I am allowed to say must conform strictly to legal criteria, because in my opinion this is strictly a legal problem. I would say it must be understood that the legal systems, the laws, in the two countries are different. Thus, being different, it is not easy to make them compatible. This is a problem concerning the law that usually presents many difficulties, that is, to make different legal systems compatible.

Our legal system is governed by the principles of Roman Law, and the U.S. legal system is governed by the principles of Common Law [preceding two words in English]. They are completely different principles, and it does not mean that one is better than the other. The legal principles supporting our laws are different than the legal principles supporting the U.S. laws. Of course, we must abide by the principles established by our laws. [passage omitted]

Military Justifies Delay

PY231552 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0443 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 22 Oct (EFE)—It was learned here today that the military judge who took 2 months to rule against the reopening of the Letelier case has submitted a letter to the Supreme Court in which he explains his reasons for the delay.

This letter is in response to a disciplinary complaint filed against the judge by attorney Fabiola Letelier, the sister of late Chilean Socialist Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier.

On 19 August, Letelier's relatives requested the reopening in Chile of investigations into the assassination of the former Salvador Allende government minister and his U.S. secretary, Ronnie Moffit, which occurred 11 years ago.

Agents of the dissolved National Intelligence Directorate, DINA (Chilean secret police), have been charged with being directly involved in these crimes. Two DINA agents have already served time in U.S. prisons.

On 8 October, the military judge issued a ruling refusing to reopen the case, known in Chile as "The Passports Case." The Letelier family was notified about the ruling on 15 October.

In a disciplinary complaint submitted to the military court on 20 October, attorney Fabiola Letelier states that the military judge's decision "shows that the court has categorically refused to investigate and clarify the incidents in question."

In his letter, the military judge argues that in order to come up with the correct decision regarding reopening the case, he had to read a document file of over 2,000 pages. In addition, he studied 200 pages from different documents and documents submitted by the Chilean Foreign Ministry to the military court.

However, Fabiola Letelier has said there is sufficient evidence to reopen the case and added that "to ignore the evidence demonstrates a lack of interest in carrying out an investigation and this necessarily leads to abusive court rulings, such as the refusal to reopen the case."

Netherlands Ambassador's Remarks Condemned

PY271258 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Text] The Chilean Foreign Ministry has categorically rejected remarks made by Netherlands Ambassador to Chile Robert Fruin to a Santiago newspaper. It says that the ambassador's remarks represent an unacceptable interference in Chilean domestic affairs.

In a press communique, the Chilean Foreign Ministry has condemned the ambassador's remarks on Chile's political, economic, and social situation.

The Foreign Ministry communique makes reference to the Vienna convention on diplomatic relations, in which Chile and the Netherlands have promised to mutually respect the laws and regulations of their respective countries, and not to meddle in domestic affairs.

The communique states that Mr Fruin's unfounded remarks show total ignorance of the development of institutional processes in Chile, development which has been repeatedly demonstrated by top government officials through the implementation of important constitutional laws.

The communique concludes by saying that the seriousness of the unjustified, improper, and mistaken remarks by the ambassador represent a lack of respect for the Chilean Government and for the Chilean people, who have received him with special respect. His remarks represent unacceptable meddling in Chilean domestic affairs.

Minister on Pinochet's Increased Popularity

PY241541 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0218 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Santiago, 23 Oct (EFE)—Chilean Minister Secretary General of Government Orlando Poblete today said that surveys conducted in the last 2 and 1/2 months show a considerable increase in support for President Augusto Pinochet.

During a news conference, Poblete said his ministry regularly orders this type of survey and that the last ones "are very positive and favorable."

Poblete said that the opposition knows the figures, adding that in spite of this, these sectors publish "surveys showing dwindling support for the government and for President Pinochet."

Poblete said: "Honest surveys conducted by the opposition have to show the same results. I think this is one of the reasons why the opposition, after their failure in the country, now seek international support."

Poblete added that "the opposition is embarked on this foreign strategy in search of international support because it is unable to find local support."

Poblete was thus referring to the current European tour by Christian Democrats Andres Zaldivar and Sergio Molina, and Socialist Ricardo Lagos, all members of the Committee for Free Elections in Chile.

When asked by journalists, Minister Poblete did not reveal what percentage of those polled supports the government, what firm conducted the surveys favoring Pinochet, or the methods used in the survey.

The surveys released by the opposition show General Pinochet's support ranging from 18 to 22 percent.

A recent survey conducted by Carlos Huneeus from the Chilean Center for Contemporary Reality Research, linked to the Catholic Church, revealed that former Presidents Jorge Alessandri, Eduardo Frei, and Salvador Allende were more popular than Augusto Pinochet.

In the survey, Chileans were asked to grade former presidents on a scale of 1 to 7. Frei received the highest grade—5.9, Alessandri received 5.7, Allende 4.0, and Pinochet 3.8.

The front page of today's issue of the Chilean independent daily *La Epoca* says that the "toast in honor" of Pinochet slated to be held in a gymnasium with a capacity of 3,000 was "a total failure of a homage or tribute to Pinochet," because only 200 people attended. Pinochet was ultimately forced to suspend the gathering.

The Chilean right-wing magazine *Que Pasa* yesterday said that support for Pinochet has increased to 30 percent. That figure, however, is not satisfactory for a plebiscite in which Pinochet will be the single candidate, according to government sources quoted by the magazine.

Opposition Condemned for European Tour

PY270318 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 21 Oct 87 p C-2

[Text] Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, Navy commander in chief and member of the Government Junta, yesterday said that any Chilean going abroad to speak against what is positive for the country "is a traitor to the fatherland."

Adm Merino made this comment at the end of a Government Junta meeting yesterday. He thereby gave his opinion about a European tour being made by opposition leaders Ricardo Lagos, a leader of the Socialist

Party-Nunez faction and the president of the Committee of the Left for Free Elections; Andres Zaldivar, the president of the Political Party Committee for Free Elections; and Sergio Molina, the coordinator of the Committee for Free Elections, to explain the meaning and goals of the campaign for free elections.

Adm Merino said that the Chilean people can see what has been achieved concerning development, increased exports, an improved standard of living, better access to education, etc. He said: "I consider any person going (abroad) to speak against what is positive for the country to be a traitor to the fatherland."

Reporters, Strike Leaders Released

PY231233 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Santiago Appellate Court Judge Marco Aurelio Perales has released *Analisis* magazine reporter Monica Gonzalez on bail. The Supreme Court also released *Apsi* magazine executive director Marcelo Contreras and *Apsi* magazine assistant director Sergio Marras on bail. The *Apsi* magazine executives will each have to pay a fine of 10,000 Chilean pesos.

In addition, acting Judge (Domingo Cochich) has released Dr Heriberto Lira Legos and Dr Alvaro Erazo Latorre, who had been charged with violating the national security law for their involvement in the call to hold a stoppage on 7 October. The physicians will each have to pay a fine of 5,000 Chilean pesos.

Colombia

Government To Resolve Satellite Problems

PA231652 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Foreign television correspondents have problems in our country. They have been unable to use satellite services for a long time. We have reported this earlier. This newscast investigated the topic, and as a result, the authorities are now going to resolve the problem. Here is a report by Ramon Jimenez:

[Begin recording] [Jimenez] The video clips of the attack on the Defense Ministry on Monday were not received abroad until Wednesday. The reason is that since March, foreign television correspondents have not been able to transmit via satellite from Colombia.

[Pedro Florez, WNTV correspondent] The problem is that the Choconta ground station managed by TELECOM [National Enterprise for Telecommunications] is unable to transmit. It can receive, but it cannot transmit.

[Ana Cristina Navarro, Spanish television correspondent] In March, without any prior notice, we found that we could no longer transmit from Bogota. There was no reaction from the government, and we never received any official report.

[Jimenez] As a result of frequency changes in the international satellite, Colombia and other countries should have replaced several parts of the transmitting antennas. In most countries, this replacement does not take more than 3 weeks.

[Florez] As a result of the problem, we met with the communications minister, but there still has been no reply.

[Jimenez] That meeting took place 3 months ago. During the 8 months that the service has been interrupted, TELECOM offered the alternative of transmitting through Ecuador or Venezuela.

[Navarro] This is always dependent on whether TELECOM or Inravision tells you that the transmission will be sent or will not be sent because of some difficulty experienced by Ecuador. TELECOM also says that it can be sent through Venezuela, but that is not true.

[Jimenez] A few days ago, TELECOM for the first time officially informed a correspondent that the service will be reestablished in November. Nevertheless, correspondents have doubts about the real reason for the lengthy suspension of the service.

[Timothy Ross, ABC correspondent] I have to tell my bosses in New York that we have this problem, and it is still in the hands of the TELECOM board; or I tell them that some import permit is needed for some parts—and they tell me, Timothy, do not be naive, it is disguised censorship.

[Tom Quinn, president of the Foreign Press Association] I suppose that it is a result of some type of mistake. I do not think it is a result of some type of disguised censorship.

[Navarro] It gives the impression that there is not much interest in having video clips sent abroad via satellite, because unfortunately, what we foreign correspondents generally transmit are perhaps not very positive images.

[Jimenez] The fact is that neither the good nor the bad images of what happens in Colombia are sent abroad on the same day. After the investigations by this newscast, the government announced today that TELECOM has finally found a solution, that the equipment will be sent from the United States tomorrow, and will be installed next week. [end recording]

Subversives Take Over Bogota Radio Station

PA270253 Paris AFP in Spanish 0130 GMT 27 Oct 87

[Text] Bogota, 26 Oct (AFP)—Guerrilla fighters from the Colombian Popular Liberation Army (EPL) today occupied the Olimpica Stereo radio station in Bogota for several moments and forced the announcer to transmit slogans favoring the right to livelihood and slogans against the government.

One of the station's employees told AFP that three men with machineguns had entered and said, "This is a guerrilla takeover."

The individuals, who identified themselves as members of the EPL Fernando Lalinde Front, forced the station personnel to lie down on the floor, while other men entered the premises.

"I counted about 10 men," the employee said, and explained that the guerrillas had indicated this takeover of the station was being done in the name of their dead commander, Ernesto Rojas, and of the recently assassinated president of the communist Patriotic Union (UP), Jaime Pardo Leal.

With a song by Argentine singer Mercedes Sosa as background, the subversives called upon "the country's democratic sectors to unite in a front for peace and life," while shouting slogans against Defense Minister General Rafael Samudio, and in favor of the so-called Simon Bolivar National Coordinating Board.

The occupation lasted about 20 minutes and there were no violent incidents.

Paraguay

Brazilian Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

PY262128 Asuncion LA TARDE in Spanish 26 Oct 87 p 10

[Excerpt] Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre arrived in our country at approximately noon today. He was met at the international airport by his Paraguayan colleague, Carlos A. Saldivar; by other high-ranking government officials; and by members of the Brazilian Embassy in Asuncion.

Government spokesmen have stated that the visit of the Brazilian foreign minister is significantly important. For example, Saldivar has stressed that Abreu Sodre's visit will permit an ever-increasing strengthening of our relations with the neighboring country. During his visit, the Brazilian foreign minister will sign important agreements, including a technical cooperation agreement that will be signed tomorrow morning.

Colombian Foreign Minister Julio Londono Paredes is expected to arrive on 27 October. This is the first time such a high-ranking Colombian official will visit Paraguay. The national government, through Foreign Minister Saldivar, has made a special point of asking the Colombian foreign minister to visit our country.

Londono will be decorated with the Extraordinary Grand Cross of the National Order of Merit, the highest decoration granted by the national government, on 28 October by Foreign Minister Saldivar during a ceremony to be held in the Foreign Ministry. [passage omitted]

Police Prevent Traditionalist Ceremony

PY261536 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 25 Oct 87 p 6

[Text] A large group of policemen yesterday morning prevented several major leaders of the Traditionalist faction of the Colorado Party, headed by President of the Congress Juan Ramon Chaves, from paying homage at the national memorial to students who died on 23 October 1931. The policemen cited "orders from above."

"It does not matter; leave the wreath over there; this is over," Chaves said in the presence of reporters, while other Traditionalist leaders were talking with the policemen about the possibility of "at least holding the ceremony on the sidewalk," in order to do something with the wreath that was to be placed inside the memorial.

Asked to comment on the fact that the ceremony was prohibited, Chaves stated: "I do not know; I do not know anything. I do not know why this is happening," and went to his private car.

Humberto Dominguez Dibb, Pedro Hugo Pena, Persio Da Silva, Derlis Esteche, Horacio Galeano Perrone, and other leaders were also present.